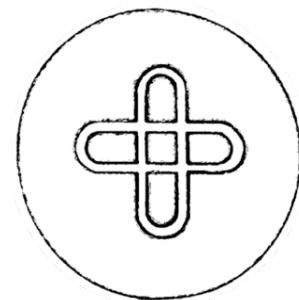


# St Mark Lutheran Church

## Service *of* Holy Communion



*Welcome to this divine service of worship!*

Plain font indicates portions of the liturgy shared by worship leaders.

**Bold font indicates portions of the liturgy shared by the congregation.**

*The obelisk ( † ) invites the congregation to stand as it is able.*

*The double obelisk ( ‡ ) invites the congregation to kneel or sit as it is able.*

Uniting in Worship + Growing in Wisdom + Serving in Love  
*to embrace all in response to God.*

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*April 21, 2024: Fourth Sunday of Easter*

*9:00am & 11:00am*

**Prelude:** *Psalm and Dance*

*David E. Thomas*

### Preparation for Worship

**God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### †Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

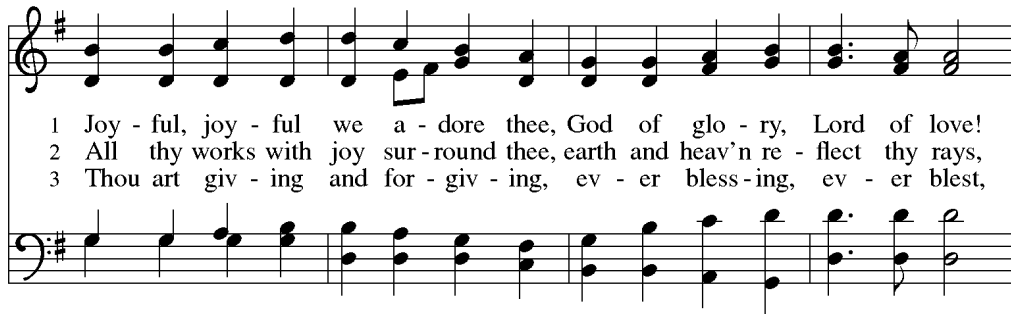
‡ Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

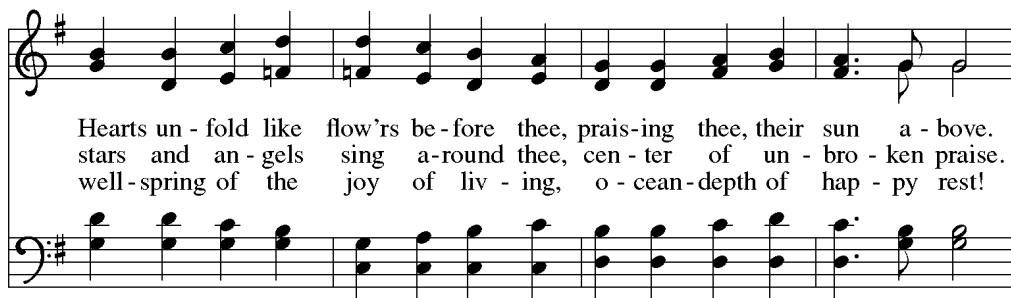
†Hymn: *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

*Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922*

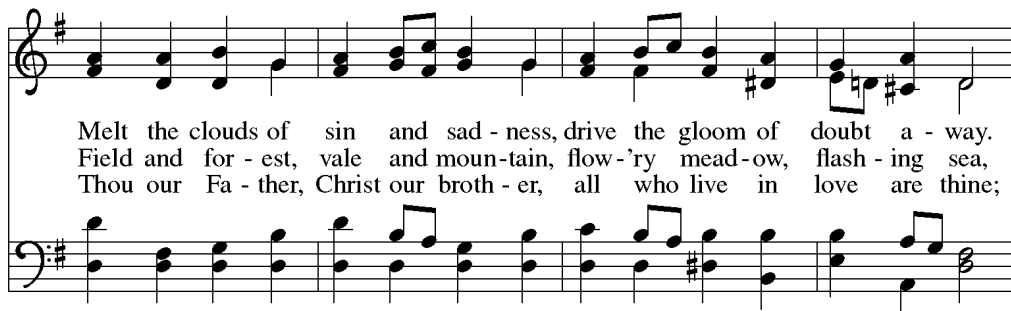
*Tune: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827*



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

†Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

† Kyrie

Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**  
Christe eleison: **Christ, have mercy.**  
Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

† Hymn of Praise

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## †Prayer of the Day

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## First Reading: *Acts 4:5-12*

A reading from Acts:

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?”

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Lord is my shepherd;  
therefore can I lack nothing.*

*He shall feed me in a green pasture,  
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.  
He shall convert my soul  
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness,  
for his Name’s sake,  
for his Name’s sake,  
for his Name’s sake.*

*Yea, though I walk thro’ the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
For thou art with me:  
Thy rod and thy staff comfort me.  
Thou shalt prepare a table for me against them that trouble me:  
Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.*

*But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life: and I will dwell  
in the house of the Lord,  
in the house of the Lord  
forever,  
forever.*

**Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24**

A reading from First John:

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

†Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

†Gospel: *John 10:11-18*

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

“For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel of the Lord.

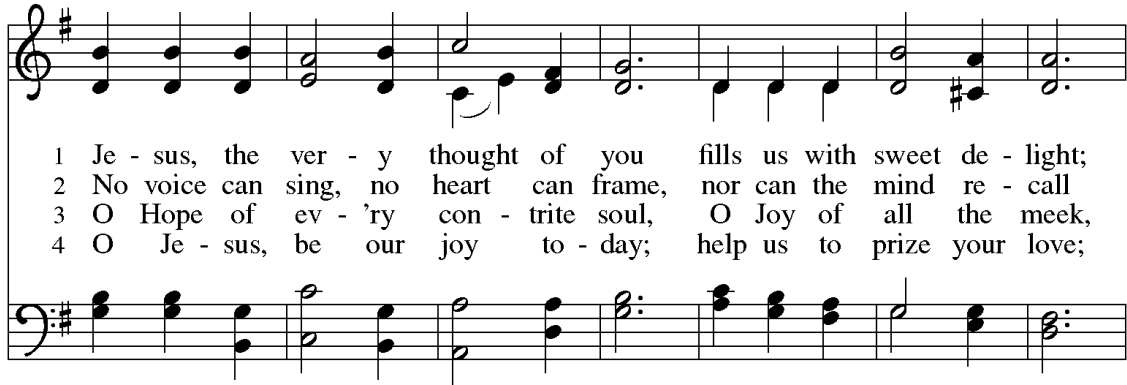
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

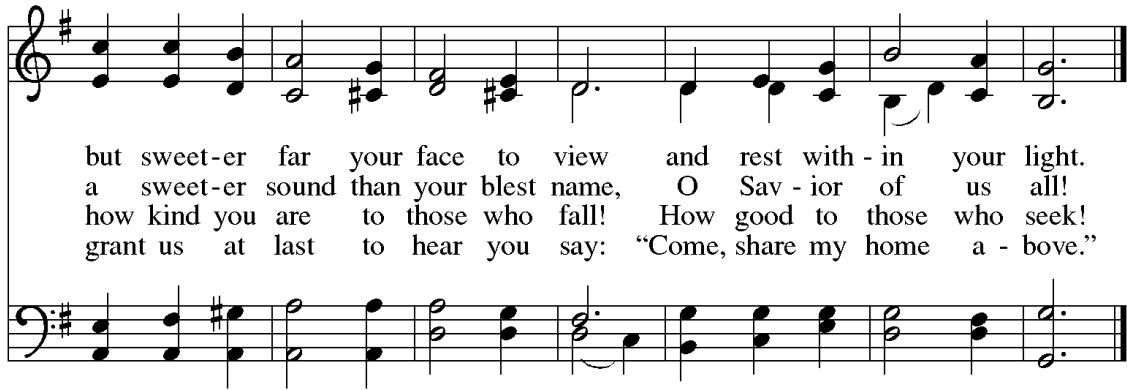
*Pastor Joel Neubauer*

†Hymn: *Jesus, the Very Thought of You*

*Text: Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153*  
*Tune: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876*



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;  
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call  
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,  
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.  
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!  
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!  
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

†Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



## ‡Prayers of Intercession

*Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.*

Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Be gentle with all whom we remember aloud on our lips and silently in our hearts including... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Shepherd us, like the Refugio de Los Sueños in Quito, to provide a safe refuge all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. Amen.*

## †Peace and Offering

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Our offering is given for the mission of the church, and caring for those in need. Offerings may be shared in the plates at the doors of the sanctuary or online by using this QR code with your smart device. As partners in ministry, we thank God for our shared commitment!*



Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

†Great Thanksgiving (*Dialogue, Preface, Sanctus, Eucharistic and Lord's Prayers*)

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, sovereign of the universe,  
who calls new life from the dust of Eden,  
who calls new life from the mud pits of Egypt,  
who calls new life from the promised land of Canaan,  
who calls new life from the cross and tomb of Jerusalem.

We thank you for this gift of life, especially for the new life you give in our Lord Jesus  
who, in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread,  
gave thanks, broke it and gave it for them to eat, saying,  
“Take and eat, this is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again after supper, he took the cup,

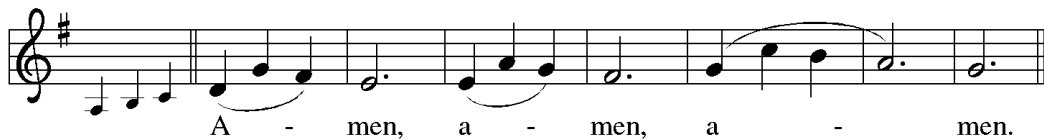
gave thanks and gave it for them to drink, saying,  
“Take and drink, this cup is the new testament in my blood,  
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering Christ’s life, death, resurrection and ascension,  
we await his coming among us.

Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine  
that we might receive Jesus’ body and blood in, with and under them  
and gather us into one body of Christ  
that in him we too may be broken and given for the life of the world.

Through him all honor and glory is yours, Holy Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
One God, in your holy Church both now and forever.



Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

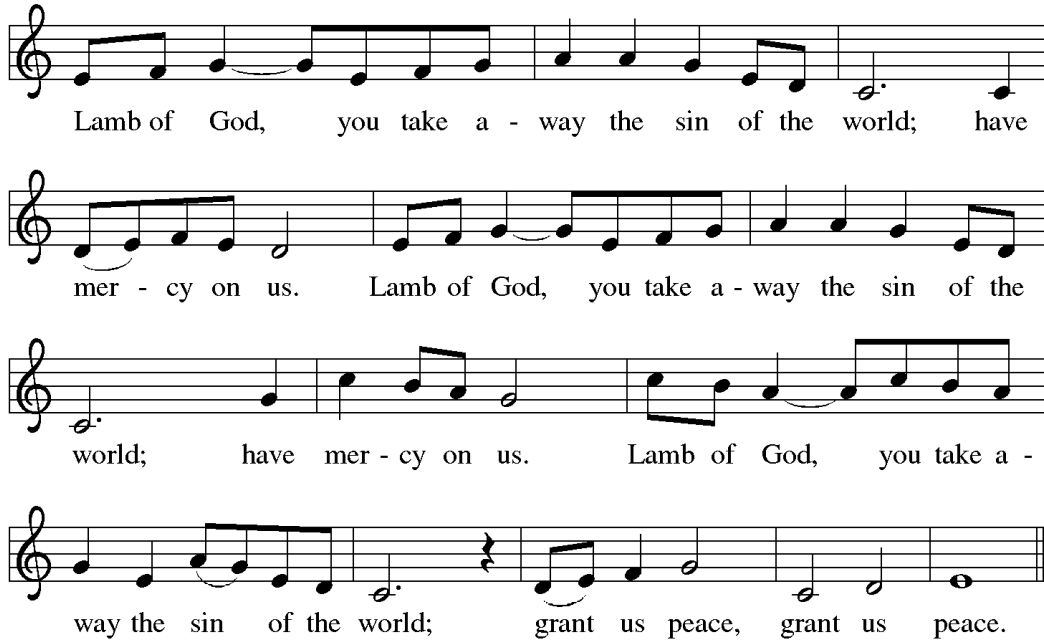
**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

†Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**Communion** — *please see back cover for a note on receiving Holy Communion.*

Communion Music:

(9:00) *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

*Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997*

*Tune: BICENTENNIAL, Robert Kreutz, 1922-1996*

*Refrain*



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joi - ce.  
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.  
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

(11:00) *The Lord is My Shepherd*

*setting for handbells by S. Geschke*

## †Post Communion Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The body & blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you & keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## †Nunc Dimittis



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## †Benediction

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD smile on you and be gracious unto you;  
the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

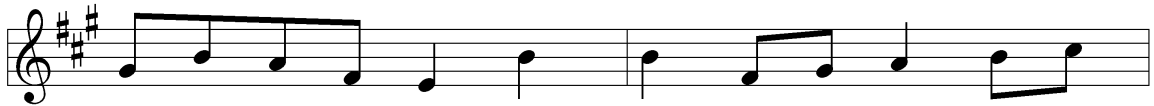
†Hymn: *Oh, Sing Jubilee to the Lord*

*Text: Ulrik V. Koren, 1826-1910*

*Tune: GUDS MENIGHED, SYNG, Erik C. Hoff, 1832-1894*



1 Oh, sing ju - bi - lee to the Lord, ev - 'ry land:  
2 He made us his own, and has giv - en us breath;  
3 Oh, come to his feast with thanks - giv - ing and praise;  
4 His mer - cy is ours; he is Lord o - ver all;



glo - ry be to God! Oh, serve him with glad - ness, as  
glo - ry be to God! The sheep of his pas - ture, we  
glo - ry be to God! Give glo - ry to him, and your  
glo - ry be to God! May all gen - er - a - tions find



in his halls we stand;  
need not fear our death, sing prais - es to God out of Zi - on!  
bright - est ban - ners raise;  
pow - er in his call;

**Dismissal** — *from Ephesians 4:1-3*

Lead a life in balance with the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

*setting by D. Cherwien*

## A Note on Receiving Holy Communion

*Believing in the real presence of Christ, this church practices eucharistic hospitality. All baptized Christians are invited to receive Christ's body and blood; all people are welcomed to receive God's blessing in the love and life of Jesus for you today and always.*

*We share Christ's body and blood in bread and wine. After washing hands with rubbing alcohol, the pastor will dip the host into the cup and offer the bread and wine together; to receive the host without wine, please inform the pastor with words or by placing a hand on your chest. Truly Christ is fully present in each element separately. Christ is for you.*

*Communicants will come forward to the feast in continuous procession.*

## PJ's reflection on the Gospel

The shepherd doesn't shepherd for the fun  
of facing wolves, the thrill of chasing strays,  
the ease of merging ranches into one  
conglomerate, the heart it takes to raise  
a lamb — to pasture it in meadows, slake  
its thirst with gentle riverwaters, guard  
it from the canyonlands of danger, make  
it sure God's goodness and God's mercy are  
determined to pursue it evermore —  
while all the while aware the day is near  
when need will mark that lamb as needed for  
the market. Jesus shepherds for our fear  
of what is sure to come to know God's good,  
to know he's given all the life he could.

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St Mark Lutheran Church  
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Parish Administrator: Amanda Kral / akral@smlconline.org  
Minister of Music: Greta Melson / music@smlconline.org  
Guest musicians: Grace Huntoon, oboe; Corinne Lombardo, harpsichord  
Handbell Choir Director: Gail Teigeler / handbells@smlconline.org  
Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center / 757-873-2273 / peninsulapastoral.org